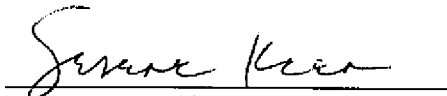


Docket: Syn-8312

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 via electronic submission on the date shown below.

  
Signature

6/15/08  
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No.	: 10/728,389	Confirmation No.	9231
Applicant	: Kevin W. Smith, et al.		
Filed	: December 5, 2003		
Title	: Tissue Retractor and Method for Using the Retractor		
Group Art Unit	: 3773		
Examiner	: Woo, J.		
Docket No.	: Syn-8312		
Customer No.	: 27,316		

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby request amendment of the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.